



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/925,321	09/08/97	VUORINEN	

IM31/0816

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EXAMINER	98-336
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 1731

08/16/01

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

Commissioner of Patents

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted by Applicant on December 12, 2000 was considered by the Examiner.

The information disclosure statement filed March 9, 2001 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.97(d) because it lacks a statement as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e). It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

37 CFR 1.97(d)

An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant after the period specified in paragraph (e) of this section, provided that the information disclosure statement is filed on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

- (1) A statement as specified in paragraph (e) of this section; and
- (2) The petition fee set forth in 1.17(p).

37 CFR 1.97(e)

A statement under this section must state either:

- (1) That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

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(2) That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 1.56© more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement."

Enclosed are signed copies of the 1449's. The Application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

When filing an "**Official**" FAX in Group 1730, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "**Official**" for papers that are to be entered into the file. The "**Official**" FAX phone numbers for this TC 1700 are:

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the **primary examiner** should be directed to **Steve Alvo** whose telephone number is (703) 308-2048. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 6:00 AM - 2:30 PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Stanley Silverman, can be reached on 703-308-3837.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Group receptionist** whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

The Customer Services Center for Technology Center 1700 (703-306-5665) shall provide the following service assistance to external and internal customers in the areas listed below.

Art Unit: 1731

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Carolyn E. Johnson, Marshall Gaddis, Bessie Bowie, Lucy Jones.



STEVE ALVO

PRIMARY EXAMINER

ART UNIT 1731

MSA

August 15, 2001